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May 10, 1963

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Police Director Dominic A. Spina

FROM: The Staff of the Newark Human Rights
Commission

SUBJECT: Racial tension in Newark.

As a result of numerous neighborhood visits by members of this staff and a greater number of telephonic communications of concern from aggrieved and interested citizens, we feel some immediate steps must be taken by the Police Director to ameliorate the present interracial conflict.

1. As we have requested on previous occasions, we feel all major complaints dealing with any kind of intergroup tension should be discussed with this office before your decisions for newspaper releases are made.

2. Would it not be diplomatic to take the initiative in calling weekly conferences with selected Negro leaders until the national and local disturbances have subsided?

3. Our staff has the function of maintaining peace and harmony in this community. We cannot be of assistance to you in your duties and functions unless we are immediately apprised of potentially inflammatory situations. May we therefore request a closer two-way communication on matters of an intergroup nature.

Cordially yours,

A:rfm
cc. - H. J. Addonizio,
Mayor

Daniel S. Anthony, Director
For the Staff of Newark Human
Rights Commission